

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A fuel injection nozzle comprising a housing, the housing comprising:

a nozzle needle bore having a central axis, an axial length, and a lower portion comprising a needle seat, an axial dimension of the lower portion being substantially smaller than the axial length of the bore;

an outside surface radially spaced from the axis;

a cooling duct arranged around the lower portion of the bore, the cooling duct being closer to the bore than to the outside surface of the housing, the cooling duct having a cross-sectional area in a plane through the central axis, the cross-sectional area having a height in the axial direction and a width transverse to the axis, the width being less than approximately 0.25 times the height, wherein an entire height of said cooling duct is arranged at said lower portion proximate said needle seat; and

a cooling medium inflow line having a first portion extending axially in the housing and a second portion connecting the first portion to the cooling duct, the inflow line having a cross-sectional area, the cross-sectional area of the cooling duct being approximately twice the cross-sectional area of the inflow line.

7.-8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) The fuel injection nozzle of claim 6 wherein the cooling duct extends axially as far as the needle seat.

10. (canceled)